



# ***Daily Report***

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# **Sub-Saharan Africa**

FBIS-AFR-91-077  
Monday  
22 April 1991

# Daily Report

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22 April 1991

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## Ethiopia

### Mengistu Rejects Blame, Offers To Resign

AB1904181591 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Excerpts] As Ethiopia's civil wars edge closer to the capital, Addis Ababa, President Mengistu spoke this afternoon to his people. There was a good deal of expectation that following calls on him to step down and give way to the interim government of national unity, President Mengistu would announce major new initiatives. In the event, the president appeared unyielding, defending his record, attacking the opposition, and denying that his government is tribally based. (Abraham Hasselhan) listened to Mengistu's speech and telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] [passage omitted] President Mengistu rejected all blame leveled at him. But, he said, if the EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] bandit leaders or those of the TPLF [Tigray People's Liberation Front] believe in the unity of the country, on my part, I am ready to give up my chair to them. In a thinly veiled response to the new peace initiative of the academics, he said political reconciliation is far different from that of husband and wife reconciliation, and I will not allow myself to bow to any pressure.

Mengistu told the nation that he is working on a big military project to enable his army to be (armed with) modern weapons, and he claimed that his government will be able to raise the standard of the Army to that of Iraq and Libya, whom he accused of harboring and training and supplying the EPLF and the TPLF. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Accuses Sudan, Libya of Aiding Rebels

EA1904190491 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1114 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Speech by President Mengistu Haile-Mariam in Addis Ababa—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The level of destruction thus far by these anti-unity elements, and the situation in our country, is more than ever before clear and instructive. If there are those who have not drawn a lesson from this situation and think that this government and party are struggling to stay in power or are working to cling to their seats, then are the arms and comprehensive support those anti-unity elements are receiving from the Sudanese, Libyan, Iraqi Governments and forces, and so on, for the unity, democracy, and peace of the Ethiopian people? [passage omitted]

### Awaits People's 'Urgent Decision'

EA1904192091 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1114 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Speech by President Mengistu Haile-Mariam in Addis Ababa—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] In contrast to this, our main problem, which is not something to doubt, is the Ethiopians in general: Certainly, we have great need for unity and peace in our country. We also have a strong wish and desire to develop our country, providing peace prevails. This is not something to doubt. Excuse me, however, because most of us do not know how we can achieve this peace. We love our country and wish it well and want benefit from it, but all of us do not share her problems equally, and we do not make ourselves ready for sacrifice.

Dear Ethiopian people, according to our saying, you cannot build a house for last year's winter. To narrate our past and present history and to remember our victories, sacrifices, achievements, and weaknesses is to remember what we have forgotten. It may also help us understand what we have not understood. If not, these comments will not confer any benefit on the current problems we are facing, the struggle to save Ethiopia. The conclusion, if possible, according to our wishes and efforts: We must today, peacefully if not by force, not only very urgently but instantly, find an immediate solution to implement.

Dear Ethiopian people, my loyalty is to the Ethiopian Constitution, to the Republic, and above all to the Ethiopian people. I am not a person who works under pressure from anybody. I only work for the benefit and unity of the Ethiopian people. Therefore, in my present speech, I do not want to suggest that certain ideas should be implemented. I ask for a clear stand and urgent decision from all the Ethiopian people, and I await it. [passage omitted]

We had many plans, and I am sure we will be able to implement these. The present struggle of the enemy is to especially thwart and destroy all these plans. It became impossible to advance. The Ethiopian people and the forces of unity, during the end of the 19th century [as heard], during the period of this generation—I hope that they will not turn Ethiopia over to the enemy. Thank you very much for listening to me.

### Enemies Said Making Atomic Weapons

AB1904193291 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1114 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Speech by President Mengistu Haile-Mariam in Addis Ababa—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The resurrection of shabiyah [Eritrean People's Liberation Front, EPLF] from its grave; the current secessionist and dismembering campaign; and in general, the unified campaign to destroy Ethiopia by the two groups [EPLF and Tigray People's Liberation Front] has intensified. Even then, the aim of the tribal secessionists is not alien to us. Because we know that our country, Ethiopia, has since time immemorial been an island of trouble due to her geopolitical location, we also know and have reliable information not only of the number of our enemies, but

also that they are receiving not only arms but have begun making chemical and atomic bombs. Besides weakening us in their efforts so far, we realize their desire is to dismember or even, if they could, totally destroy us. [passage omitted]

### **Denies Campaign To Stay in Power**

*EA1904214091 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1114 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Speech by President Mengistu Haile-Mariam in Addis Ababa—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Dear Ethiopian people, as is well known, at no stage, not even once, have I ever done anything for my own sake. As an individual, and according to the authority and responsibilities I was given, what I decided and what I ordered to be decided, and what I advised and what I ordered to be advised has only been from the perspective of helping the people, for the people, and with the people. My faith, support, and strength are the people. [passage omitted]

When I say this, I want the whole people and my comrades in arms to examine and understand with open hearts and thoughtful minds the following:

First: It is not that I am above all others or see myself as better than all the Ethiopian people, who love and are serving their country.

Second: According to the responsibilities and positions I was given, what I have done and all the spheres I have participated in have been for the interests and benefit of my country and my fellow people and were based on a strong belief in them. Hence, above all, there is nothing which can criticize my conscience as an individual, and it is not responsibility. [sentence as heard]

Third: What I am engaged in is not a political campaign to stay in power in the remaining period or in the future.

Fourth: This is just to let you compare the problems and tensions of an individual in leading his own life and leading his own family, let alone leading a country for 17 years, with the responsibilities of facing a very complex, challenging problem; and at times, some of the problems have no political or military solutions.

Fifth: This is a country that has not experienced peace, unity, and stability, a country which is situated in a hostile neighborhood and a region that has not been free from political crises and struggles, a country which is situated in a unique strategic and geopolitical region. Poor in a land of plenty, the most backward, the poorest of all, a country that is a recipient of food aid, a country languishing in a war that has been running continuously for 30 years. This is a country with different nationalities and religious denominations, with a famous history and culture, with people full of gallantry and patriotic children. It has, on the other hand, been faced with mushrooming bandits and reactionaries, as well as tribalists

for centuries. I want you to understand what a difficult and heavy responsibility a leader of such a country shoulders.

### **Prepared To Resign if Unity Secured**

*EA2004214191 Addis Ababa International Service  
in English 1530 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam has asked the entire Ethiopian people for a clear stand and urgent decision in the face of the grave challenge now facing the country. In an address he made yesterday to the nation over radio and television on the objective situation in the country, President Mengistu pointed out that a speedy decision should be taken to answer the question of whether and how force should be used to extricate the country from its present crisis if the government-preferred approaches to a peaceful solution of the problem were to fail. He stated that the issue behind the intensified struggle currently under way in Ethiopia is not the question of social system, justice, democracy, or power, as claimed by our enemies, but rather establishing a so-called Tigray-Tigrigni government, after totally and wholly demolishing Ethiopia and its people.

President Mengistu pointed out that if the question was merely one of power, he was prepared to resign as long as Ethiopia's unity and territorial integrity remained secured. He noted that Ethiopia's enemies had been engaged for a long time in a conspiracy to divide the country and destroy her as [a] single entity. To this end he said the Weyane group [Tigray People's Liberation Front] had clearly specified in its program that there is no such thing as an ancient civilization of Ethiopia for the government and history of Ethiopia. President Mengistu further stated that the so-called EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] and Weyane group are at present claiming that only few days remain to bring about their joint objective of seceding Eritrea. He pointed out that the anti-unity coalition is posing an imminent and grave threat to the country's unity and very survival, emboldened by all-out support which they are getting from the governments of the Sudan, Libya, and Iraq.

President Mengistu further said that in the light of what had happened in the world in the past two or three years, it was deemed necessary to formulate a new policy for a transitional period aimed at ameliorating the problems, so that the country could keep pace with the changing times.

To this end he said radical measures are being taken by the party and the government. He expressed full confidence that the present generation of Ethiopians and the forces of unity would not betray their country at this crucial period.

Meanwhile President Mengistu announced in his address the convening of an extraordinary session of the

national Shengo [national legislature]. The Council of State announced that the session will take place next Monday [22 April].

### **Asks People's 'Decision' on TPLF**

EA1904194891 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1114 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Speech by President Mengistu Haile-Mariam in Addis Ababa—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Eritrean secessionists have told us precisely that their question is a question of colonialism, and if the invading Ethiopian forces do not withdraw from the area, there cannot be any peace or negotiation. Are there any Ethiopians who do not understand the destructive aims of the Tigray People's Liberation Front, its identity and purpose? Therefore, are some of us still waiting for them to tell us what an open secret is and to reveal to us their purposes? I ask the Ethiopian people to give an urgent and practical decision. [passage omitted]

### **Mengistu Addresses 'Emergency' Shengo 22 Apr**

EA2204123691 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 0930 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] An emergency third congress of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] national Shengo [parliament], which will discuss the current situation in Ethiopia and pass resolutions, opened today. Before the congress opened it observed a minute's silence in memory of those heroes who have sacrificed their dear lives for the unity and security of Ethiopia in fighting against the enemy. Moreover, the congress also expressed its deep respect and gratitude to the innocent children and elders killed by our brutal enemies as well as those heroically struggling with the enemy in Gojam, Gonder, Welega, northern Shewa, and Welo.

In the statement he made at the opening of the meeting, Comrade President Mengistu Haile-Mariam said that our enemies were out to destroy our country by violence, and added that this was the decisive time to repulse this dangerous trend. Besides brutally killing people, our enemies have also focused on a war geared on destroying our economy, he explained. He went on to say that the responsibility of defending the motherland should not be left to a certain section or region. The war being waged by the Weyanes [Tigray People's Liberation Front] and Shabiyyah [Eritrean People's Liberation Front], in conjunction with foreign forces, is being led by one central campaign center. He added that the enemies are

expanding the war to the Gojam, Gonder, Welega, northern Shewa, and Aseb areas.

Apart from examining the reason as to why our enemies were easily able to expand the war in the various regions of the country, the congress will also discuss how to free those compatriots who are prey to the guns of the enemy, and the overall possibility of tackling the dangerous situation. It will pass resolutions in this regard. Although it may be felt necessary to tackle the enemies' attack with force, this is, however, not believed to be the only solution available. Comrade President Mengistu Haile-Mariam pointed out that the congress should conduct a genuine discussion on resolving the problem politically and peacefully.

After Comrade President Mengistu Haile-Mariam's general opening statement, the congress proceeded with lengthy discussions on the issues.

### **EPRDF Rebels Report Battle With EPRP**

EA1904143091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian  
People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom  
in Amharic 0400 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Statement issued by the office of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, General Council; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] It will be recalled that when the EPRDF began the Tewodros campaign to annihilate the Dergue soldiers based in Gonder and Gojam, it had no intention of creating any conflict with the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP] and in fact made repeated calls for the EPRP leadership to desist from belligerent acts. It said that the basic contradictions between the two organizations must be solved in a peaceful and democratic way on the basis of the people's decisions. [passage omitted]

The EPRP did not limit itself to this, but carried out sudden attacks on our [word indistinct] which was on duty at a place known as Tana in the Dangila area on 14 April and made clear its declaration of war. Accordingly, it organized its army and carried out an attack on 16 April to drive the EPRDF from Dangila and environs, which were liberated by our army in the Tewodros campaign.

Because it was necessary for our army units in the area to defend themselves against this attack, 134 members of the EPRP were killed or wounded while 74 others were captured in the operation. [passage omitted] We call upon all EPRP members to fight against the EPRP leadership's belligerent acts.

Issued by the office of the EPRDF general council, on 18 April 1991.



**De Klerk News Conference Before European Tour**

MB1904213591 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network  
in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 19 Apr 91

Report on interview with President F.W. de Klerk by Clarence Keyter at Jan Smuts Airport on 19 April]

[Text] The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, says he is optimistic that the proposed summit to stop violence in South Africa, announced by him yesterday, will be a success. Mr. De Klerk says it is a pity that certain parties want to play politics. He says that he finds it unthinkable that anyone in South Africa, opposed to violence, would refuse to participate in the conference on violence.

Speaking at a news conference at Jan Smuts Airport shortly before his departure to Europe, Mr. de Klerk gave details on why his visit to these particular countries was important for South Africa.

[Begin video recording] [De Klerk] I consider the visit to these three countries, England, Denmark, and Ireland, as significantly important. England in particular. This will be my first meeting with Mr. Major, the new prime minister. I am looking forward to that. England is an important country, not only in Europe, but it also has especially broad relationships with South Africa in business matters. In that sense, I think, it is in the best interest of South Africa for us to continue the good relationship which existed with his predecessor. Indications are, through correspondence, that we will get on well together.

We must promote trust in South Africa. It is not only about the breaking down of obstacles, it is about the broadening and deepening of trust in the process here, and in the opportunities offered by South and southern Africa.

Denmark and Ireland are important because, over many years, they have been the European countries in the EC who were very negative towards South Africa, and who had been more difficult to persuade regarding, among other things, the sanctions problem. Also, it is an important opportunity to further convey first hand knowledge and also to broaden relationships. Denmark as a Scandinavian country has an important role to play, and in that sense of the word, is also important.

[Keyter] Is there no danger of the EC decision earlier this week failing, because, the latest indication, in Denmark, is that the opposition parties, which are also the majority, could force the government not to approve the EC decision.

[De Klerk] I am informed about that, but we still do not have first hand information; the report has just come through recently. If there should be a problem, I think, that it is good and fitting, for me to be there, and hopefully, to hold talks with the opposition parties. That would contribute toward straightening out misunderstandings and problems.

[Keyter] Regarding yesterday's announcement, Mr. President. Is the summit planned for May to combat violence, not in danger of failing because of opposition from both the right and the left?

[De Klerk] I find it unthinkable that any one genuinely opposed to violence would pass up an opportunity to hold talks with the government on ways of combating violence. I went out of my, and we will continue to do so till the time of the summit, to ensure maximum participation. The general reaction is absolutely positive, overwhelmingly positive. I am also encouraged that this summit will be a positive contribution, because it has been welcomed by every one. [end recording]

**Right-Wing Internal Conflict in Wake of Report**

MB1904142791 Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English  
15 Apr 91 p 5

[Article attributed to "Political Correspondent:"  
"Broedertwis" (fraternal quarrel) on Right"]

[Text] Far-right wing politics appears headed for another period of "broedertwis" following publication of a bombshell Conservative Party [CP] strategy document at the weekend. The confidential document—which is still to be presented to the party's parliamentary caucus—turns much current CP policy on its head and warns that fellow far right organisations are riddled with security police agents who manipulate and control far right "resistance".

The document is bound to sow division and suspicion among the dozens of organisations on the white right and jeopardise CP plans to create a unified right-wing front against the government.

But more significantly, the far-reaching proposals, compiled by a CP team headed by CP information chief Mr. Koos van der Merwe, is bound to fuel strife within the party between apartheid die-hards, led by deputy leader Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg, and the so-called "New Right".

The leaking of the document, dated October 1990, just a month before the Ladybrand by-election, will clearly not assist the CP's campaign in the marginal seat. The 48-page document, entitled "Strategy for a Changing Situation", submits that the days of apartheid, even under a CP government, are numbered. It warns the party leadership that the CP runs the risk of becoming "completely irrelevant" if it continues to cling to existing policies and "unrealistic dreams".

Among the controversial proposals and warnings contained in the document, compiled on the instructions of CP leader Dr. Andries Treurnich, are:

- The CP should lift its ban on talking with the ANC [African National Congress] and SA [South African] Communist Party.
- The CP should drastically revise its partition plan.

- President F.W. de Klerk's power-sharing reform initiatives enjoy the support of most white voters and the government was likely to win a referendum.
- Change in South Africa was already "irreversible" and the CP would not be able to turn back the clock, even in power.
- Mr. Piet "Skiet" Rudolf and other far-right militants were allegedly "security agents".
- Rightwingers who have committed acts of violence were often simply people with a tendency towards crime or with personality defects.

Mr. van der Merwe yesterday told the CAPE TIMES that the weekend publication of the document was a "transparent attempt" to confuse voters ahead of next month's Ladybrand by-election.

The CP ousted the NP [National Party] by a narrow 70-vote margin in the 1989 general election, and the NP are determined to regain the seat, which is seen as a good barometer of white opinion.

Mr. van der Merwe also told SAPA reports on the document and on CP thinking were "selective and distorted". Dr. Treurnicht, who originally denied having asked for the document to be drawn up, later said such proposals were presented to the party from time to time. Some were not even examined, while others were looked at and rejected.

### Police Kill Four, Seize Arms Cache

MB2204093191 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0914 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Excerpt] Pretoria Apr 22 SAPA—Four men allegedly smuggling arms into South Africa were killed in a shootout with police near Komatipoort on Sunday night, police said. Commissioner of police Gen Johan van der Merwe said in a statement on Monday police had seized a large arms cache after the shootout, 40km from Komatipoort, just before 9 PM [1900 GMT]. He said police responded to gunfire when they killed the four occupants. "Police seized 16 AK-47 assault rifles, 15 AK-47 magazines, one RPK machine gun, one RPG rocket launcher with missile, a Makarov pistol, two VZ-24 machine pistols as well as a large quantity of ammunition," Gen van der Merwe said. [passage omitted]

### WEEKLY MAIL's 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB1904182291 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL  
in English 19-25 Apr 91 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Text]

### RACE CLASSIFICATION

A total of 463 people were reclassified racially in 1990, compared with 549 the previous year, according to the

annual report of the Department of Home Affairs tabled in parliament this week.

The following reclassifications were approved: White to coloured: 12; coloured to white: 138; coloured to Chinese: two; Chinese to white: two; Chinese to Indian: one; Chinese to Malay: one. One white person reclassified from white to Malay; five Malays to white; and one Malay to Chinese.

White to Indian: three; Indian to coloured: 23; coloured to Indian: 31. Indian to Malay: eight; Malay to Indian: 23; coloured to African: nine; African to Indian: five. Coloured to Malay: four; Griqua to coloured: one; Indian to white: three; and Malay to coloured: six.

### INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Of the R[Rand]2-billion allocated by the state to the Independent Development Trust (IDT) last July, R1.3-billion had been allocated to housing, education and health, Finance Minister Barend du Plessis said in parliament this week. He said funds had been allocated to upgrade land and housing for hostels and squatter settlements. An amount of R750-million over 24 months had been allocated to making property rights and housing accessible.

### INDEMNITY

A further 1,208 people had applied for, and been granted, indemnity for undergoing and receiving military training contrary to provisions of the Terrorism Act, Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee announced last week. His department said this brought the total of indemnity applications granted to 3,692—73 percent of those received.

### BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Eighty-two black local authorities in the Transvaal still owe more than R1-billion for service charges. Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] said this week townships in the region owed at least R1.6-million for electricity supplied. Thokoza, Katlehong, Atteridgeville and Vosloorus are among the townships still being affected by electricity cuts as a result.

### ABORTIONS

A total of 868 legal abortions were conducted during 1989/90 as compared with 960 during 1988/89, Minister of Health Rina Venter said in parliament. Replying to a question from Dr. Zach de Beer (DP, Parktown), she said 70 in the first and 34 in the second period had been authorised due to rape and incest.

## POLICE DEATHS

Police spokesman Major Reg Crewe said this week 25 policemen have been killed in unrest-related incidents from the beginning of this year until the middle of March.

## PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Seven members of the Diloang Civic Association and the African National Congress Youth League are being held in the Kuruman Prison, according to the Lawyers for Human Rights Kimberley office.

The prisoners—Aniki Moganene (35), Benjamin Jonathan (22), James Lelalepi (21), William Lelalepi (36), Auberd Mosala (21), David Mocumi (34) and Adam Mayekiso (21)—were picked up from their homes on January 17 in Olifantskloof, about 300km from Kimberley. They have since been charged with public violence, assault and intimidation.

## 19 Apr Press on ANC, Government Negotiations

MB1904105191

[Editorial Report]

### THE STAR

**Paper Welcomes Possible Patriotic Front**—The emergence of a patriotic front between the national executives of the African National Congress, ANC, and the Pan-Africanist Congress, PAC, "should be welcomed," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 April. "It will eliminate or reduce a potential friction point in the black community." Greater unity in black ranks will mean "the fewer discordant voices there are in the liberation movements, the easier it will be for the De Klerk administration to conclude a deal." Another reason to welcome a patriotic front is that Mandela and Makwetu "are men who measure their words and actions carefully. They are dignified prison graduates, schooled in the skills of rational debate and the give and take of hard bargaining. But we must express the hope that the ANC's pro-negotiation stand, however qualified it may be at present because of the township violence, will prevail over the PAC's anti-negotiation stance."

### BUSINESS DAY

**ANC's 'Sulky' Attitude Negative, Counterproductive**—"The ANC needs to come up with something new and imaginative to wrest back the initiative it admits it has lost to government," declares a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 April. "It needs to be seen to be leading the way out of the wretched quagmire of apartheid, to be formulating realistic plans to give people a better life-style and a stake in their land. It might not have the means, but it should have the ideas. After all, it does claim to represent the aspirations of the masses." Government "bears an enormous responsibility," but "for the ANC to get sulky and

say it won't play ball whenever the regime falls short of meeting its demands is sadly negative and will ultimately be counter-productive."

### THE WEEKLY MAIL

**Criticism of ANC's 'All-Too-Accommodating' Posture**—Armeen Akhalwaya writes in the "Politics" column on page 11 of Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English for 19-25 April: "When the African National Congress issued its ultimatum calling on the government to meet certain conditions by next month, the establishment media reacted as if it had set off a nuclear bomb. A shaken ANC retreated and said it had not issued an ultimatum. It was an inept display by an organisation which seems unable to grasp that it is a government in preparation." Furthermore, "township residents are becoming disillusioned with what they perceive as the ANC's all-too-accommodating posture. They see the ANC bending over backwards to appease the Nats, and to attract the support of whites and neo-liberal groups of all hues." Akhalwaya warns the ANC to "get out of the bed of white sheets it is making."

### NEW NATION

**Vlok Stalled on Violence Until it Benefited National Party**—Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 19-25 April says in its page 6 editorial that Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok's decision to "confiscate dangerous weapons in public places and his attempts to get a conference around the issue of violence begs the obvious question of why he waited so long before doing what is the basic function of any police force. We suspect that this was because the political agenda of the National Party dictated that he stall until the violence began to benefit the Nationalists. For this reason we are inclined to believe that Vlok's measures are purely temporary and that they will be subject to changes as determined by the political agenda of his party."

### CAPE TIMES

**ANC Constitutional Proposals 'Good Sense'**—The ANC's discussion document on constitutional principles "vindicates the belief that a reasonable constitutional settlement is not only possible in this country, but could be reached rather more quickly than the pessimists imagine," says a page 6 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 15 April. "The ANC's proposals demonstrate practical good sense and a serious intent to make headway in the forthcoming negotiations. After the recent uproar over the ANC 'ultimatum', this is welcome and reassuring."

**'Disarray' in Conservative Party Leadership**—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 16 April in a page 6 editorial says the "disarray in the Conservative Party [CP] leadership following the leaking of an embarrassing document on strategy is heartening. It is an excellent thing that a significant group in the diehard CP is in favour of negotiation. More and more, it seems, there is



a trend towards realism in the CP caucus, and a split is developing between certain younger MP's and the white supremacist leadership."

#### THE NAMIBIAN

**Spanish Vessels' Capture Welcome**—"The forfiet of five Spanish vessels to Namibia this week was good news, probably even more so because the promised development aid following the New York Donors Conference last year, is disappointingly slow in coming," writes Editor Gwen Lister in her "Political Perspective" column on page 6 of Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 12 April. She urges the reader not to "underestimate" the importance of Namibia's fishing resources which have been plundered over decades.

#### TIMES OF NAMIBIA

**'Lame Excuse' For Stripping of Military Bases**—A page 2 editorial in Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA in English on 15 April refers to the stripping of the former South African military bases, saying the issue has taken on a "most surprising new turn, with the disclosure by the SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] daily that the vandalism and theft of state property still continued and 'came on the instructions of Namibia's former South African rulers.'" TIMES OF NAMIBIA believes this is not an explanation for theft, "a lame excuse for not stopping the grand-scale stripping of the former military bases." TIMES OF NAMIBIA knew, "on good evidence, that bases had been handed over by UNTAG [United Nations Transition Assistance Group] to the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications in the condition they received it from the SADF [South African Defense Force]. Only then did the destruction start."

**Personality 'Cult' Around President Nujoma**—Windhoek TIMES OF NAMIBIA in English on 16 April is "amazed by the arrogance of the government and its officials," and says in a page 2 editorial that on 13 April a "properly scheduled meeting by the official opposition" was cancelled by Kavango police Chief Bollen Sankwaza because President Nujoma was visiting an agricultural project seven kilometers away from the venue of the rally. "SWAPO is busy creating a personality cult round the figure of the President." But the paper points out Nujoma is "not above the Constitution" which includes the right to political assembly, whatever District Commissioner Bollen Sankwaza might think."

#### 20 Apr Press on De Klerk Tour

MB200409599

[Editorial Report]

#### SATURDAY STAR

**De Klerk's European Visit Achieves 'Diplomatic Symmetry'**—Johannesburg SATURDAY STAR in English on 20 April in its page 12 editorial states that "President de Klerk achieves diplomatic symmetry next week with

official visits to Denmark and Ireland. These two countries, which have long been counted among Pretoria's most implacable critics, are the last of the European Community 'Twelve' to receive him." "Valuable publicity for the reforming government will accrue from this trip, and relations with the international community will take an important step forward. Whereas the sortie to the United States sought to gain acceptance of the irreversibility of reform, this one seeks promises of foreign involvement in the reconstruction, the building of a new South Africa." "It is not mean-spirited, but rather realistic to deduce that one of the reasons for the timing of Mr de Klerk's announcement on the 'peace summit' and the standing commission of inquiry into violence, was to coincide with his departure." The ANC [African National Congress] and "most other extra-parliamentary groupings have serious misgivings about the way the Government" went about this. These questions "will not, and indeed should not, overshadow the historic and positive nature of the visit. But they should serve as a reminder to Mr de Klerk that despite the wonders he has wrought, he still has much to prove to people whose support he is endeavouring to win. The doors of the world are opening. But it will be a while before we are received with open arms."

#### New 'Killer' Disease Discovered in Natal

MB190415209/ Umata Capital Radio in English  
1300 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] A new killer disease, which has been described as far more infectious than AIDS, has been detected in people living in Natal. The province's blood transfusion service is the first in South Africa to start testing for Hepatitis-C, which is transmitted by blood transfusions and infected body fluids. The director of the NBTSS [Natal Blood Transfusion Service], Professor Francisco Costa, says his service is the first in the country to test for the virus. A virologist at the South African Institute of virology, Dr. Alan Smith, says Hepatitis-C was discovered less than two years ago. Testing equipment only became available last year.

#### \* COSATU Facing Political Loyalty Conflicts

91 4F0933A Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES  
in English 17 Mar 91 p 7

[Article by Brian Pottinger; quotation marks as published]

[Text] Top officials in the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] might soon have to make a tough choice—either serve their unions or their political organisations.

Rank-and-file members want an end to the system of dual leadership, where union executives often also serve in demanding positions in political organisations like the ANC [African National Congress] and the SA Communist Party [SACP].

Among the main personalities affected are:

- Chris Dlamini, an executive in the Food and Allied Workers' Union, the ANC and the SA Communist Party.

#### **Demand**

- Moses Mayekiso, union executive of the ANC and SACP executive, president of the Alexandra Civic Organisation and chairman of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal.
- John Nkandimeng, union executive, member of the ANC National Executive Committee, general secretary of the ANC's trade union arm, SACTU [South African Congress of Trade Unions], and most recently, deeply involved in peace negotiations with the Inkatha Freedom Party.

The long-simmering debate about how closely the union federation should align itself to the political movements will come to a head at Cosatu's crucial June conference.

There is a growing demand from rank-and-file members for Cosatu to establish its independence from the two political movements.

This is to forestall attempts by a new government to dominate the trade union movement.

The second fear is that unions will be used as recruiting grounds for particular political parties.

Cosatu spokesman Neil Coleman said this week that there was no objection to overlapping membership between the unions and liberation organisations, but there was a debate about the same leaders serving in the unions and in political organisations.

He said: "ultimately, it is a choice that the membership of the various unions must make about their own leadership."

There was also an acceptance that there should be a flexibility on the issue while the newly-unbanned political organisations built up their structures.

A discussion paper circulating among Cosatu's members notes the controversial issue of whether union executives should hold executive positions in political organisations.

Members are asked to debate whether dual leadership sacrifices union autonomy and whether it affects the capacity of union leaders to carry out their duties.

#### **Debate**

The Cosatu discussion paper does not object to dual membership, but questions whether a person can perform two full-time executive tasks with equal competence.

It says: "Apart from the workload question, there is the issue of simultaneously representing two independent organisations."

The debate over the role of unions in the political process has been given added impetus by the latest edition of the SA [Republic of South Africa] Labour Bulletin, a left-wing journal of news, analysis and comment on the union movement.

In it, John Copelyn, the general secretary of the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union, said the last few years had seen some developments in the trade union movement which were extremely worrying to all people seriously committed to its independence.

He said: "In Cosatu, a resolution has been adopted which declares it to be 'in alliance' with the ANC and the SACP."

"There are huge pressures to use the union movement, and the large organisational base it represents, to recruit members to both these organisations."

#### **Echoed**

"On a whole range of issues, Cosatu has simply echoed policies of these organisations."

"Major policy statements of the ANC are almost never contradicted by Cosatu even when, on paper, there are substantial differences between the two organisations."

Mr. Copelyn said these developments represented major dangers to the independence of the trade union movement in a post-apartheid society.

It was possible that the union movement would "degenerate" into the labour wing of the government, he said.

### UNITA Notes 'Real Possibility' for Peace

WFB20064082541 [Luanda/Capital Radio in English  
0800/GMT 20 Apr 91]

[Text] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels say a commitment by the Angolan Government to hold national elections within 18 months has created a real possibility for a peace settlement in the country's 16-year-old civil war. A UNITA spokesman says the prospects for peace are better than they ever have been. A U.S. official says a settlement is a real possibility but some difficulties remain. Peace talks between government and UNITA officials are being held in Portugal with help from U.S., Soviet, and Portuguese mediators. There is some indication in the talks that a cease-fire may be possible in the next four to six weeks.

### Continued UNITA Attacks Endanger Peace Talks

WFB20064193891 [Luanda/Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1900/GMT 20 Apr 91]

[Report from correspondent Andreio Joao in Lisbon]

[Text] Increasing UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] military actions in Angola could have a negative effect on the peace negotiations which have been taking place in Bicesse since 4 April. Reliable sources have revealed that the Angolan Government could recall its delegation to Luanda if UNITA continues to intensify military actions.

Implementing a South African strategy, UNITA intends to capture a provincial capital in order to establish its headquarters. This is in conformity with a decision made by the recent UNITA congress which created a so-called government that is now trying to find a de facto place from where it will carry out its activities, which implies a balkanization of Angola.

It seems as if UNITA wants to drag the negotiations out until July when the Cuban troops in Angola conclude their withdrawal. This equally explains why UNITA's No. 2 man, Jeremias Chitunda, needed eight days to go and consult his chief, Jonas Savimbi. Chitunda, who returned to Lisbon today, made it very clear that UNITA did not agree with the 18 months proposed by the Portuguese mediation as the transitional period needed between the cease-fire and elections.

Herman Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, and his Soviet counterpart, Vladimir Kazimirov, however, are currently in Bicesse. The two men came to Lisbon to assess the progress made in the negotiations. It seems that they both fully support the Portuguese proposal of 18 months before elections. The two men will meet separately with the two delegations, and then they will be present in one of the sessions. Let us hope they will convince UNITA to review its negotiating strategy! If that is not the case, the peace process in Angola will enter a new impasse.

### Portuguese Official Notes 'New Problems' in Talks

WFB20064055091 [Johannesburg/Domestic Service  
in English 0300/GMT 22 Apr 91]

[Text] New problems have arisen at the peace talks in Estoril, in Portugal, on the Angolan civil war that will delay the signing of a cease-fire between the Angolan Government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. However, the chief negotiator of the talks, the Portuguese Foreign minister [title as heard], Dr. Jose Manuel Durao Barroso, expressed the hope that a cease-fire would be signed by the end of this month. He said some progress had been made. Dr. Barroso was speaking at a joint news conference that was also attended by leading U.S. and Soviet observers of the talks. Dr. Barroso would not reveal the nature of the new problems.

### USSR's Kazimirov in Lisbon for Peace Talks

WFB19064205691 [Luanda/Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1900/GMT 19 Apr 91]

[Report from Lisbon correspondent Andreio Joao]

[Text] Vladimir Kazimirov, a former Soviet ambassador to Angola and current chief of the Soviet Foreign Affairs Ministry's African Department, is in Lisbon for two days to attend the Bicesse peace talks on Angola. He is optimistic and willing to play an active role alongside the United States. He said: We are mere observers, but we want to observe decisive progress during the current phase of the negotiations.

He added that he was not carrying any proposal on when elections should be held in Angola. He hinted, however, that he backs the Portuguese proposal to hold elections in about 18 months. Actually, the proposal has been fully endorsed by the Angolan Government.

Herman Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, who also supports the Portuguese proposal, will arrive in Lisbon either tonight or tomorrow morning. He has already stated that he wishes to see progress after eight days of talks.

The Angolan Government has already endorsed the Portuguese proposal, but on the part of UNITA there is absolute silence. There has been no sign of Jeremias Chitunda. Negotiators in Bicesse have already indicated their impatience. Chitunda's absence has been regarded as premeditated because the timetable for elections in Angola has always been seen as obstacle for further progress at the talks [words indistinct] the Angolan Government. It has been learned, however, that UNITA does not support the proposal fully, and has even regarded it as favoring the MPLA.

The United States, however, UNITA's main backer, supports the Portuguese proposal. This will be UNITA's major dilemma in the next 24 hours. We are here to follow the situation. Further as available.

### Dos Santos Opens Central Committee Meeting

MB1904194091/Luanda/Domestic Service  
in Portuguese/1900/GAF/19 Apr 91

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party, has said that in the future the party could form an alliance with other forces. Opening the third party Central Committee special session in Luanda today, Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that the party will not overlook the possibility of forming political alliances with other forces as long it is beneficial to society.

The chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party gave assurances that by adhering to a program for peace, unity, and national harmony, as well as for the improvement of living conditions and general progress, the party is certain that the people will confer political legitimacy on it at the polls. He said, however, that there is a current demand for the party to renovate itself. After all, he added, this is also an aspiration of the Angolan people in general. Accordingly, he said that the party's statutes and program have been reviewed, and the congress will certainly approve them.

Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that the party has once again cemented national unity, and proved to be a driving force for progress and development of the people by opening up its political spectrum to the broader sectors of the Angolan society, free of discrimination. Accordingly, he recommended the reorganization of working methods, and the strengthening of the party's mobilizing capacity.

The Central Committee members will continue tomorrow to evaluate the preparations for the second special party congress which will be held in Luanda next week. The Central Committee members will also analyze the country's political and military situation, as well as the internal peace process.

### Urges Peace, Reconciliation Forum

MB2004064491/Luanda/Domestic Service  
in Portuguese/0600/GAF/20 Apr 91

[Text] The proceedings of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Central Committee's third special session are to continue in Luanda today under the chairmanship of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. In his opening speech yesterday, the president of the People's Republic of Angola said that a forum for peace and national reconciliation should be created. The Angolan head of state said that that forum should discuss constitutional and electoral issues to allow the free expression of and widest participation by the various sectors of Angolan society. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos noted that this idea is particularly valid at a time when talks with UN/ITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] are at an

advanced stage, despite that gang's insistence on creating obstacles and unnecessarily extending the war and the people's suffering.

### Final Communique Issued

MB2004210891/Luanda/Domestic Service  
in Portuguese/1920/GAF/20 Apr 91

[Final communique issued at the end of the Central Committee meeting of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party in Luanda on 20 April]

[Text] Under the chairmanship of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee held its third special session at the Futundo de Belas Palace in Luanda from 19 to 20 April 1991. During the opening session, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos hailed the high degree of maturity and spirit of responsibility displayed by the Angolan people in their contribution toward the ongoing changes in our society aimed at establishing a multiparty democracy. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos pointed out that it was necessary to create these conditions to calm passions and bring about harmony among all the Angolan people during the period of transition to free elections. The Angolan president stressed the need for every party member to speak convincingly about the MPLA-Labor Party policy. The Angolan president also spoke of the need to create a forum for peace and national reconciliation. This forum should discuss constitutional as well as electoral issues equally, thus permitting the free expression and participation of the broadest sectors of our society.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee examined the operation of the MPLA-Labor Party within the framework of a multiparty system. It also examined a report from the Central Committee commission on the composition of the Central Committee, the project of the internal organs of the second special congress, and a report from the commission reformulating the MPLA-Labor Party program and statutes.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee concluded that the preparations for the second special congress of the MPLA-Labor Party took place during the projected period and conditions have been created for the congress to take place on schedule.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee examined in depth the political and military situation of the People's Republic of Angola and noted the apparent bad faith on the part of UN/ITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], which imposes cruel and unnecessary suffering on the people, while it should have demonstrated greater commitment to the search for a peaceful solution within the framework of the ongoing negotiations in Portugal.



The MPLA-Labor Party hailed the valiant FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] fighters and the militant residents of Luena, the capital of Moxico, who, since the beginning of this month, have been bravely defending that portion of our territory against UNITA's attempt to capture the city. The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee called on Luena residents to remain firm against the enemies of the people.

The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee also paid its heartfelt homage to civilians and soldiers killed in these enemy operations. In conclusion, the MPLA-Labor Party heard and examined a report on the development of the internal peace process in Angola and noted the Angolan Government's commitment to the search for peace, particularly its flexibility regarding the period of elections.

[Dated] Luanda, 20 April, year of the restructuring of the economy and multiparty democracy.

[Signed] The MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee.

#### **FAPLA Said 'on the Run Throughout Angola'**

*MB2004063291 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0515 GMT 20 Apr 91*

[Text] Reliable military sources close to the FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] chief of general staff yesterday disclosed in Jamba that the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces are on the run throughout Angola. They have already fled from Cazombo, Cacula, Maquela do Zombo, Caconde, Ego, Catofe, Sango, and [name indistinct], leaving behind all the war materiel they had stored in those localities so they could embark on new military adventures. According to our sources, the FAPLA intended to carry out these military adventures this week to wipe out the civilian population.

They said that FAPLA forces no longer believe in the Luanda regime's military option to destroy UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] because UNITA enjoys a lot of support among the Angolan people. FAPLA forces find that the Luanda regime's option is neither viable nor intelligent nor patriotic.

The FAPLA forces are also finding that the MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] government does not serve the interests of the Angolan people and that UNITA [words indistinct] in its struggle for peace and multiparty democracy in Angola. According to these sources, the people in the aforementioned areas have received the glorious and patriotic FALA forces with open arms.

#### **KUP Asserts UNITA's Right To Defend Itself**

*MB1904212291 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 19 Apr 91*

[Station commentary: "UNITA Has the Right to Defend Itself and the Angolan People"]

[Text] Sixteen years ago, when the Cuban expeditionary army invaded our beloved country in flagrant disrespect of the noble Angolan people and the international community, it imposed through armed force the blood-thirsty, totalitarian and dictatorial MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] regime in power in Luanda. It was only UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] that did not run away in the light of this dramatic situation.

In 1976, our beloved president, Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, indicated the path of national resistance of all Angolans against foreign invasion.

The MPLA, which has never enjoyed the support of the working masses and all social levels in our country, implanted a repressive police regime with all the characteristics of the Nazi Gestapo and the Romanian Securitate where its agents learnt the most barbaric methods of assassinating all those who rose their voice against this illegal and unpopular regime.

In a twinkling of an eye, MPLA jails were full of Angolan patriots and many of them only knew the entry door because late at night they were, and continue to be, taken to the firing squads.

The MPLA has not managed to give the basic necessities to the citizens. Workers go for months without being paid their wages and struggle for a living without any support from the so-called Government of the People's Republic of Angola. There is an acute shortage of basic products and, today, more than ever before, the MPLA has lost the support of even the very few who had some trust in it. Its ministers are incompetent and have become professional swindlers.

It is only fair that the working masses raise their voices in legitimate defence of their interests. It is only fair that the workers under the MPLA regime should make their voice heard and should not be prevented from doing so because it is they who suffer in flesh and soul the bad things implanted by this regime in our country.

It is imperative that Angolans join all their effort to UNITA's great work which has always been in the vanguard of the struggle in defence of the country's interests and those of the oppressed, unprotected and the common will of the Angolan nation to be free from colonization, neo-colonization, humiliation and modern slavery under the cover of the so-called internationalism. [sentence as received]

The patriotic and revolutionary Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FALA, have been protecting the people from the military adventures of the henchmen of



the Futungo das Belas presidential palace because it is its motto. [sentence as received]

We have defended ourselves against foreign invasion, and the Cubans are leaving because the struggle has been won by the Angolan people. We will continue to defend ourselves against any aggression aimed at destroying the conquests which have been achieved with a lot of sacrifice over the past 16 years.

The time for change has come. The heroic Angolan people have total confidence in our beloved President, Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, who indicated the way of honour and dignity for Angolans and, 16 years later, the way for lasting peace and national reconciliation is no longer only a hope but is indeed a certainty.

Our choice is made. We are all for the victory of Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi in the presidential elections. UNITA has to win in all spheres of power in Angola in order to save Angolans from misery and destruction.

#### **Bombs Said Being Dropped in Cuemba, Munhango**

*MB2204090491 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 22 Apr 91*

[Text] MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] airplanes have just bombed villages in Cuemba and Munhango regions, using toxic bombs. Capa Negra, Vorgan [Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel] correspondent in Munhango town, has disclosed that since 10 April the MPLA-PT has intensified the use of chemical bombs dropped by (?Su-25) airplanes.

Several villages were destroyed during the bombings. Great human and material losses have been recorded. At least 100 civilians are showing strange symptoms, believed to be [words indistinct] bombs. The correspondent added that dark clouds of smoke hover above the bombed areas for approximately six hours after each raid.

## Ghana

### Taylor T-Shirts Cause Fighting Among Refugees

AB2004113491 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 19 Apr 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There are some 6,600 Liberian refugees in Ghana, most of them housed at the camp of Bujumburam, a few kilometers outside the capital, Accra. But Ghana is finding them troublesome guests, with reports of unruly behavior, stealing, and drug dealing. As Adjoa Yeboah-Afare reports in this fax from Accra, the latest problem carries distinct political overtones:

[Begin studio announcer recording] In recent weeks, T-shirts carrying a picture of rebel leader Charles Taylor have apparently sparked off fighting at the Bujumburam refugee camp. The T-shirts, said to be in different colors, have Taylor's photo in the front and on the back, carry the inscription: Charles Taylor Interim President, Vote for Him. The coordinator of the refugee program, Mr. G. Boadi, said he believed that the T-shirts had been brought in by some of the Liberian refugees returning from a visit to Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast]. Mr. Boadi explained that in recent months many Liberians have come to the camp from Abidjan. He said it has been recently noticed that some of these visitors from Abidjan have ulterior motives. He said: We suspect they come to campaign for Charles Taylor.

Mr. Boadi said the T-shirts came to his attention a few weeks ago following an incident of fighting in the camp. The quarrel started when a young man was seen wearing one of the T-shirts. It was discovered that the young man's elder brother and his girlfriend had just returned from a trip in Abidjan where they had bought the T-shirts. A search in their room revealed eight more. The couple were questioned and later released. [end recording]

## Ivory Coast

### Commentary Views Results of PDCI Congress

AB1804124491 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN  
in French 17 Apr 91 p 16

[Ladji Sidibe article: "The Bet Has Been Won"]

[Text] The apotheosis of the extraordinary congress of the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA] came at 2300 last Sunday, 14 April, with the spectacular consecration of a man known by all Ivoirians for his loyalty to the PDCI-RDA and, above all, to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the founding chairman of the oldest party in our country. All those who hoped for unavoidable cracks within the PDCI to slip in and sow discord in the hearts of party activists and all those, well- or ill-intentioned, who expected a split in the party "have gone to all that trouble

for nothing." This is because the meeting showed that the PDCI is mature enough to rise above immediate contingencies and transcend problems among people as well as clannish and regional interests to pursue only the general interest.

In light of that, Laurent Dona Fologo's election as the party's secretary general is far from a victory of a person over occasional contestants. It is the symbiosis of hearts beating in unison for the same ideal: peace. That victory is also yet another clear indication that the spirit of dialogue and consultation, which President Houphouet-Boigny has always championed, has been digested and assimilated over the years. As a result, the party can now resolve the most complex situations without rancor or bitterness.

While the election of the secretary general produced an electromagnetic effect on all the 2,000 delegates, we should also highlight the renewal of the membership of all the structures of the PDCI-RDA, a party which rallies all Ivoirians, by birth or by adoption. In this vein, the Central Committee, an 80-member executive body, was elected with younger members predominating. Fifty out of the 80 members are new. In the Central Committee, Djeny Kobina and Ahmed Bassam, two leaders of the movement of renovators, will be the standard bearers of our dynamic, enthusiastic, and energetic young people who are anxious to become increasingly involved in politics. They will learn at the side of party dignitaries such as President [of the Economic and Social Council] Philippe Yace and Grand Chancellor Germain Coffi Gadeau.

The Political Bureau now comprises 300 younger members and 100 older ones. It is the deliberating organ. The 400 members have been drawn from all socio-professional sections and all regions of the country. Men and women of all generations are also represented. One can say that after this congress, the PDCI will assert itself as the leading party.

Anxious to start work right away, the new secretary general is self-confident because he knows that he can count on the wise counsel of the elders and founding members and on the dynamism and resourcefulness of the younger members, who are ready to put themselves at his service. The new PDCI has come to life, stronger than ever. Let the great democratic ball start rolling now!

## Liberia

### Amos Sawyer Reelected Interim President

AB1904215991 Paris AFP in English 2141 GMT  
19 Apr 91

[Text] Monrovia, April 19 (AFP)—Amos Sawyer was re-elected here Friday night as interim president by the Liberian National Conference, meeting here since March 15 to find a lasting solution to Liberia's political crisis. The National Conference agreed to drop the idea of a

triumvirate interim government following the withdrawal from the conference of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia.

## Niger

### Unions, Opposition Parties Reject Saibou Proposal

AB1904174291 Dakar PANA in English 1600 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Niamey, 19 April (ANP/PANA)—Trade unions and the major political parties in Niger have rejected the formation of a transition government before the holding of a national conference proposed on Tuesday by President Ali Saibou.

The official SAHEL-DIMANCHE weekly quoted the leader of the Democratic Union of the Popular Forces (UDF-SAWABA) as saying that the president's proposal was incompatible with the national conference scheduled to take place in May.

Two other parties—the Union of Niger Scholars (USN) and the Workers Union of Niger (USTN)—also supported the view that the formation of a transition government should only emanate from the national conference.

Other opposition parties urged the head of state to accelerate preparations for the national conference which has been held up by differences over representations of the various associations. The president said on Tuesday that the elaboration of the national budget and relations with external partners were being hampered by the fact that top government officials were only concentrating on their parties at the detriment of government business.

### Saibou Yields to Opposition

AB2004152091 Paris AFP in English 1431 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Text] Niamey, April 20 (AFP)—Niger's military ruler, Ali Saibou, has bowed to opposition requests not to form a transitional government before next month's national democracy conference, the official ANP news agency reported Saturday [20 April]. General Saibou's decision came after talks with opposition representatives who told him they would not align themselves with any bid to form a government outside the conference framework.

On Tuesday, he had asked political parties and trade unions to help form an interim team to avert "administrative hold-ups" in the run-up to the conference, notably in drawing up a national budget and dealing with international lending institutions and countries.

## Nigeria

### EC Lifting of Sanctions Against RSA Deplored

AB1904150091 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Apr 91

[Text] Nigeria has deplored the recent decision by the foreign ministers of the European Economic Community to lift most of their sanctions against South Africa [RSA]. The Ministry of External Affairs in a statement, pointed out that the EEC foreign ministers had unilaterally broken the international solidarity against the persistent apartheid system at a crucial moment in the struggle to end the obnoxious system. It noted that the insensitivity of this decision towards deep and long suffering African sensibilities on the apartheid issue, did not give hope that the continuing role of the EEC on the apartheid question would remain even-handed.

The statement added that promises by the South African Government were not enough to satisfy the yearnings for freedom by the South African people, stressing that the world had anxiously awaited concrete measures to translate these promises into action. The federal government, therefore, called on all individuals, groups, and governments to continue to support UN sanctions against South Africa and to refrain from undermining international solidarity against the apartheid system.

### Muslim Demonstrators Burn Buildings in Katsina

AB2004104391 Paris AFP in French 0935 GMT 20 Apr 91

[Excerpt] Lagos, 20 Apr (AFP)—Muslim fundamentalists burned several public buildings yesterday in Katsina (northern Nigeria) during demonstrations in protest against death threats issued by the state governor against the local Shiite leader, it was reported by the government daily newspaper "NEW NIGERIAN" today in Lagos. The demonstration started at midday immediately after Friday prayers at the city's central mosque when a group publicly burned a picture of State Governor Colonel Madaki.

The police then intervened by throwing tear gas bombs. The demonstrators responded by throwing stones. The demonstrators then dispersed in groups in the vicinity of the mosque, burning the offices of the state commissioner for information and the General Treasury.

Calm returned some hours later. Five policemen, who were slightly injured, had to undergo treatment at the hospital, and several demonstrators were arrested. [passage omitted]

### Fundamentalists Arrested for Arson

AB2104093891 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Apr 91

[Text] One hundred and twenty-four persons have been arrested in Katsina State in connection with arson committed by a group of religious fundamentalists. The state

commissioner of police, Mr. Muhammed Ali-Jos, made this known while briefing Governor John Madaki. [Words indistinct] prison quarter, who is said to be the personal bodyguard of the leader of the group, one Yakubu Yahaya, whose whereabouts is still unknown. The commissioner of police disclosed that some documents, including the seal of the Federal Government as well as knives and other [word indistinct], were recovered from the fundamentalists.

### Sierra Leone

#### Momoh Says Border Situation Still Volatile

AB1904155491 Freetown Domestic Service  
in English 2000 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Excerpts] The chairman, Freetown City Council committee of management, Mr. Alfred Akibo Betts, has presented to President Momoh on behalf of the entire citizens of the Municipality of Freetown 5 million leones to the government to help fund the efforts of the military, the police, and the prison services in putting down Charles Taylor's rebel incursion into Sierra Leone territory. [passage omitted]

Commending the chairman and members of the committee of management for what he noted as a demonstration of support both in words and deeds, President Momoh described the present situation as unpalatable, which should not be let to the Armed Forces alone. He recalled that even though this country had had to fight wars in Cameroon, Burma, and then in Belgian Congo, this is the first time it has had to fight against an aggression unleashed on us by an outside force. President also recalled that irrespective of this country's meager resources and economic constraints, we opened our doors to large numbers of Liberian refugees and accorded them our traditional hospitality only to receive such a (?poignant) expression of ingratitude from Charles Taylor.

President Momoh said the situation in the border areas is still volatile, but stressed that Charles Taylor cannot sustain the war for long without the sponsorship of Libya and Burkina Faso as godfathers. He assured the city fathers that Sierra Leone enjoys the sympathy of the international community and that all precautionary measures had been taken to ensure the safety and security of the state. President Momoh therefore appealed to every citizen to cooperate with the security forces and show understanding during security checks, which may cause some embarrassment. He also warned against malicious propaganda and the spreading of false rumors which may cause disaffection and panic among people. Political malcontents who want to use the present situation to settle old scores by pouring oil on troubled waters must be closely watched, he said. Also today, a delegation of the Port Lokko District called on President Momoh at State House to brief him about their mass rally to be held in Port Lokko tomorrow in support of his timely action to contain Charles Taylor's rebel incursion into Sierra Leone's territory. [passage omitted]

In his remarks, President Momoh reviewed the situation in Liberia since Charles Taylor's attempt to unseat the late President Doe in December 1989 and the consequences and repercussions of the civil war in Liberia on all the neighboring countries and the West African subregion as a whole. He condemned Charles Taylor's ingratitude after this country has spent millions of leones in maintaining Liberian refugees as a result of her humanitarianism and open-door policy, but assured the delegation that we now have resolved to fight this battle to a finish. Once and for all, Charles Taylor, he said, must be taught the language of the gun, which he understands. President Momoh appealed for unity and cooperation among all citizens, emphasizing that they must close their ranks, irrespective of tribe, status, religion, or political beliefs.

The minister of rural development, social services, and youth, Alhaj Musa Kabia, earlier presented the delegation to President Momoh.

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